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THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON

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Dear Mr. Secretary: DEC 21 AM 10 54

Reference is made to my letter to you of 16 November 1953 concerning the unwarranted attack by Chinese Communist aircraft on a United States Navy patrol plane. RECORDS BRANCH

At approximately 0219Z on 6 November and 0225Z on 18 November 1953, two more United States Navy twin engine patrol seaplanes were fired upon while engaged in routine reconnaissance flights over the Yellow Sea by aircraft identified by crew members as being MIG 15's. The attacks occurred in the vicinity of 35°50' N, 121° 00' E, and 31°54' N, 122°41' E, respectively, which locations are approximately twenty-five miles from the mainland of Communist China and in the same general area in which a U.S. Navy patrol plane was attacked and severely damaged by two MIG 15 aircraft on 2 October 1953. At no time during any of these flights did these U.S. planes over-fly the territorial waters of Communist China.

In elaborating on their identification of the plane involved in the 6 November incident, the crew members stated that they were under attack for approximately 4 minutes, the attacking plane, which was painted a silver grey color, made four diving firing passes from astern; and that although the MIG 15 fire was returned on one or two of the last three runs, no damage or injuries to either plane or crew were sustained or observed.

Concerning the attack occurring on 18 November in which two MIG types were involved, crew members report that the attacking planes were silver grey in color with green tails. Both planes were observed to make three firing passes each during a five minute attack. As in the case of the 6 November attack, no damage or injuries to any of the planes or crew were evident.

Since, as in the case of the United States plane that was damaged on 2 October, these attacks occurred in the close proximity to Communist China, as compared to other countries in the Far East, and since MIG 15 aircraft are not known to be operated in that area by other than the Chinese Communists, it is reasonable to assume that the attacking aircraft were operating under the direction and control of the Peiping Regime.

Because of these additional unwarranted attacks on U.S. Navy patrol planes within a period of seven weeks, it is requested that another suitable protest be presented to Peiping through a friendly power with representation in the Communist Regime.

Sincerely yours,

Roger W. Tubby
ACTING

SecDef Cont. No. S-745

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The Honorable
The Secretary of State

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